

YOUTH DETENTION FUNDING

It is the intent of the Montana Association of Counties to support full funding of grants to counties under the Montana Youth Court Act and to seek legislation and funding to recognize the frontier status of Eastern Montana Counties.

WHEREAS, 41-5-1902, MCA authorizes the Board of Crime Control to provide grants to counties to assist in youth detention services; and

WHEREAS, 41-5-1904, MCA authorizes the Board of Crime Control to award an amount not to exceed 50% of the approved cost of programs for the transportation of youth to appropriate detention or shelter care facilities and the cost of secure detention; or on a matching basis in an amount not to exceed 75% of the approved cost of providing holdovers, attendant care, and other alternatives to secure detention, except for shelter care; and

WHEREAS, counties have not been able to rely on the above percentages of costs for youth detention services; and

WHEREAS, secure detention in Eastern Montana, for many rural counties, requires many hours of transportation to and from secure detention facilities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Counties will endeavor to seek sufficient funding to meet the intent of 41-5-1902; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Montana Association of Counties will endeavor to seek sufficient funding to meet the intent 41-5-1904, MCA and seek legislation recognizing the distances law enforcement must travel for purposes of providing adequate youth detention services.

SPONSOR: **Districts 1, 2 & 3**
 Eastern Region Juvenile Detention Services Board

RECOMMENDATION: **Do Pass**

PRIORITY: **High**

REFERRED TO: **Justice & Public Safety Committee**

ADOPTED: **Annual Conference, Hamilton, MT September 24, 2008**